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Graffiti...

magazine

Issue Một

Spring 2002

AHS 2002 DEC2006

Clout magazine is a new publication for The 2002.

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The nationwide boxcar pool

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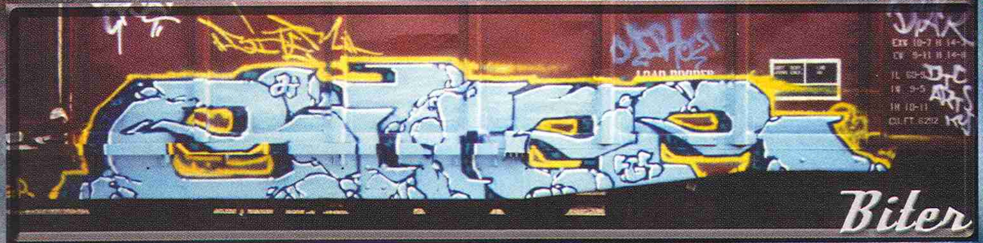

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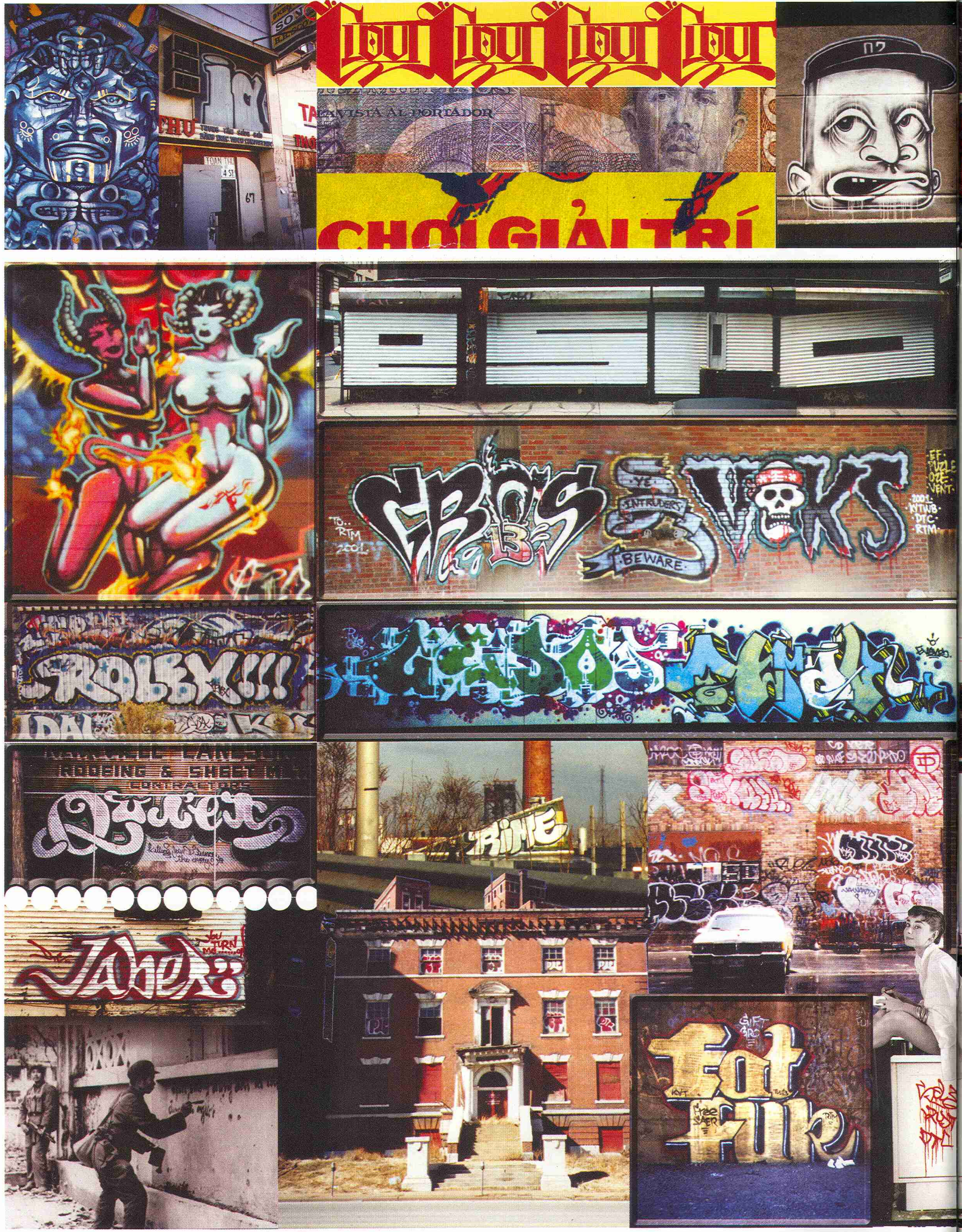
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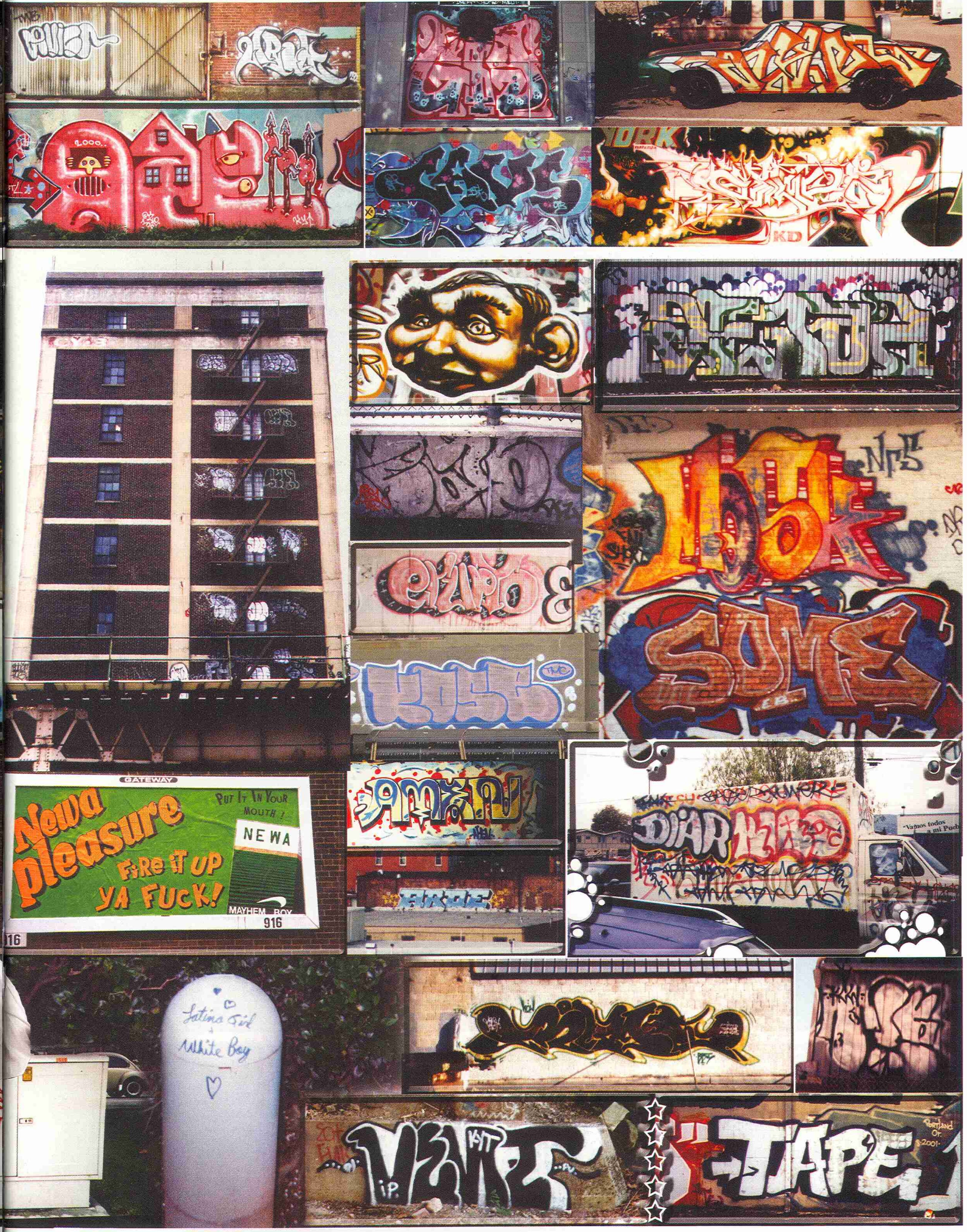
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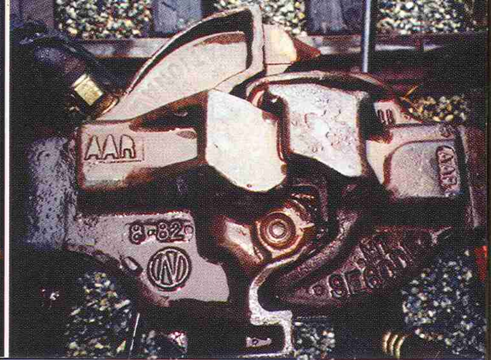
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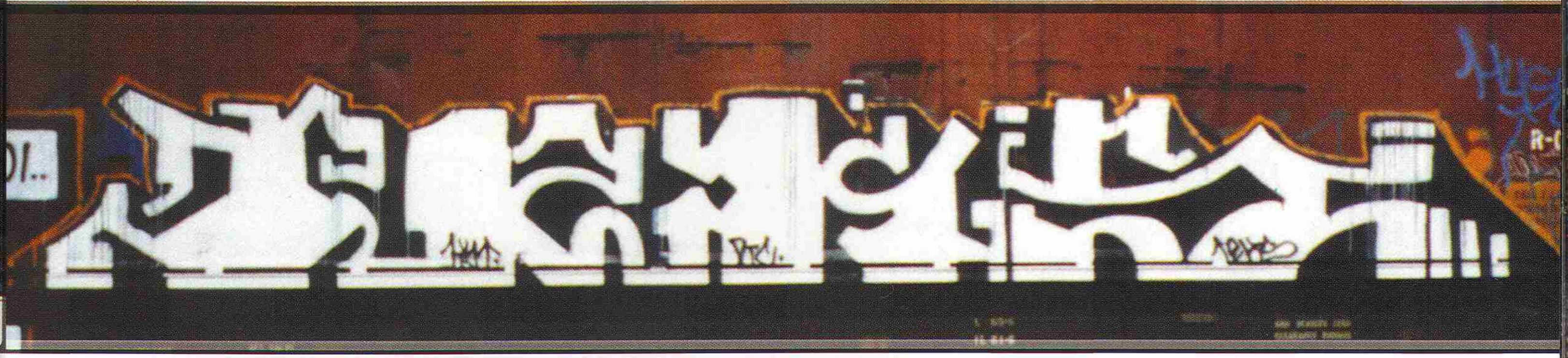

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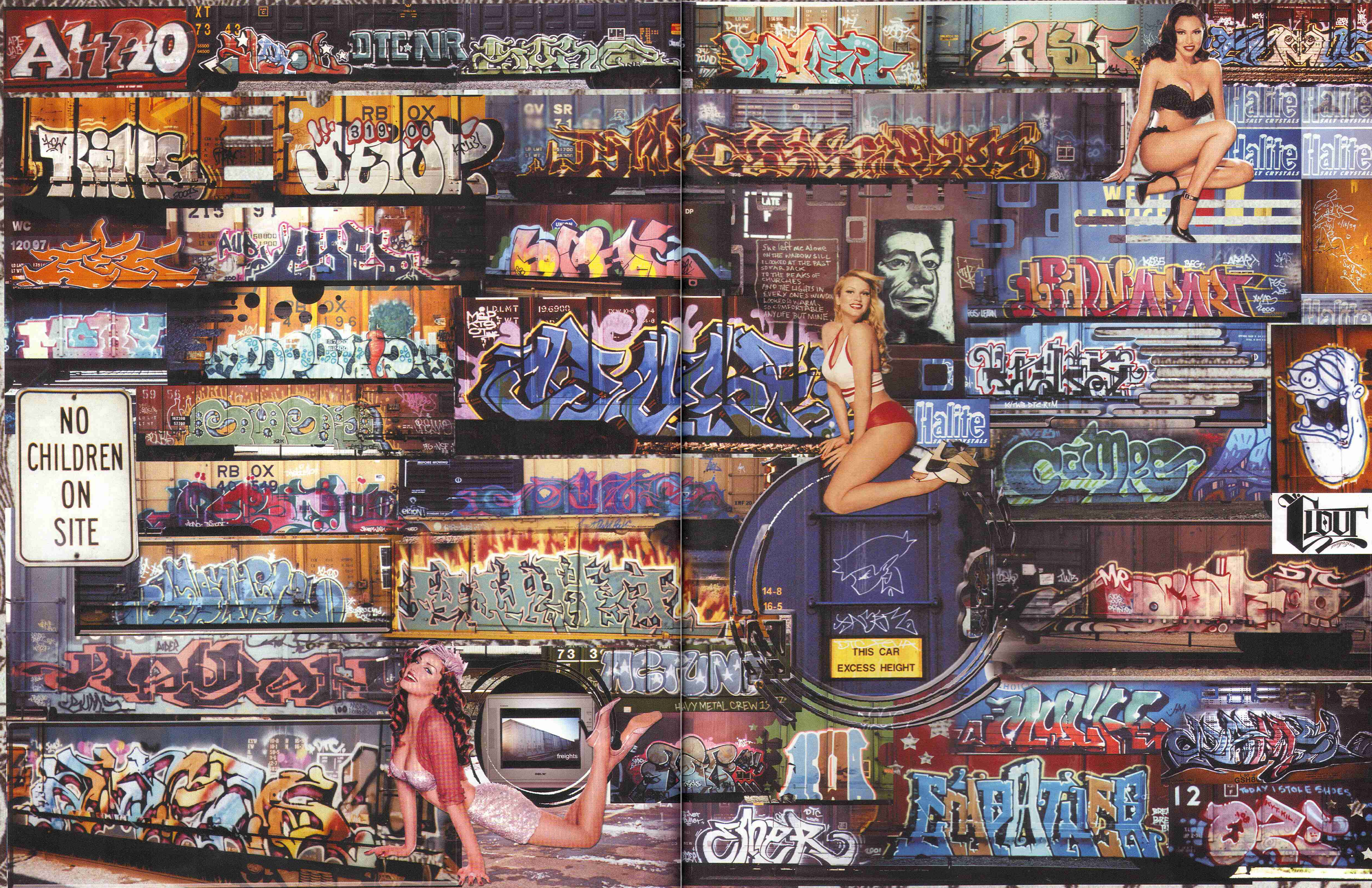

NO CHILDREN ON SITE
She left me Alone
ON THE WINDOW SILL
I LOOKED AT THE PAST
SO FAR BACK
TO THE PEAKS OF
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AND THE LIGHTS IN
EVERY ONES WINDOW
LOOKED SO WARM,
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HAVY METAL CREW
TODAY I STOLE SHOES
Clout magazine

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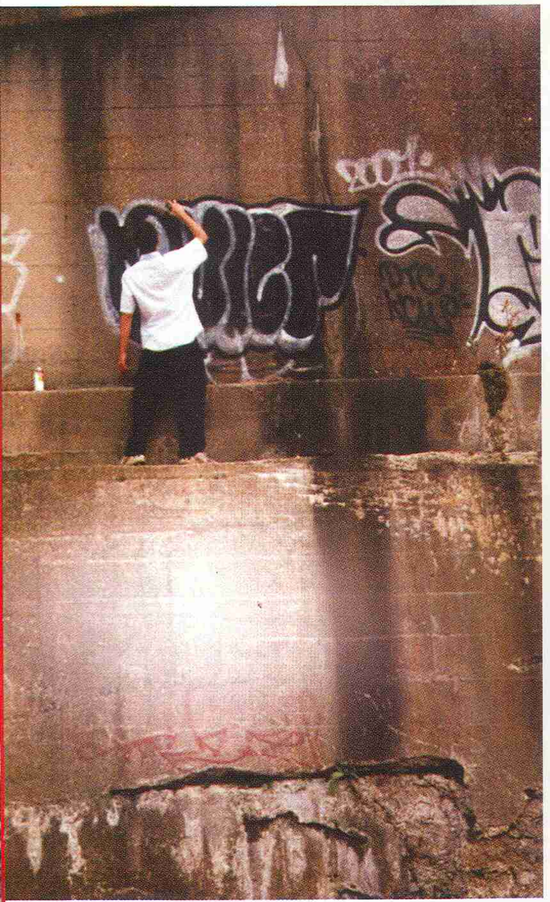

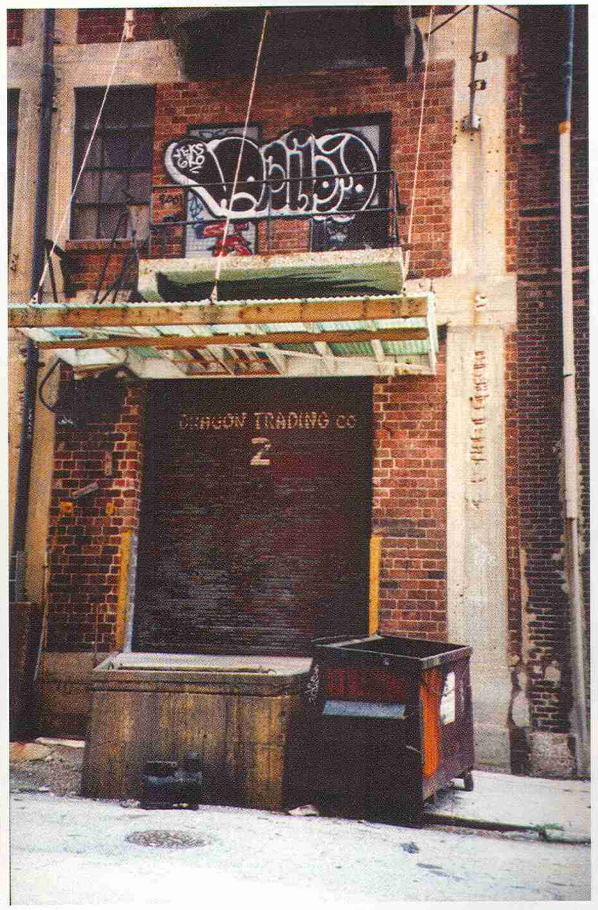
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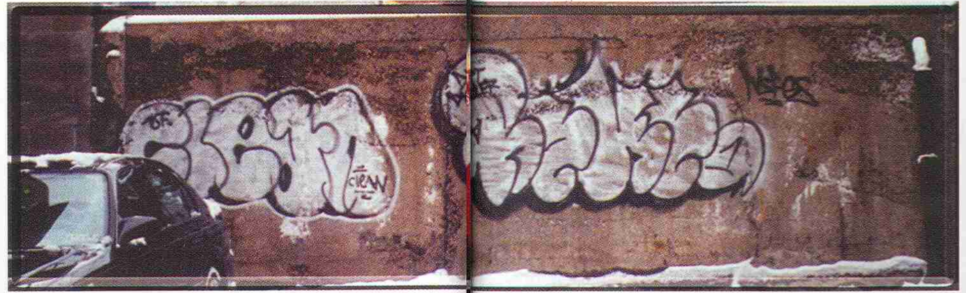

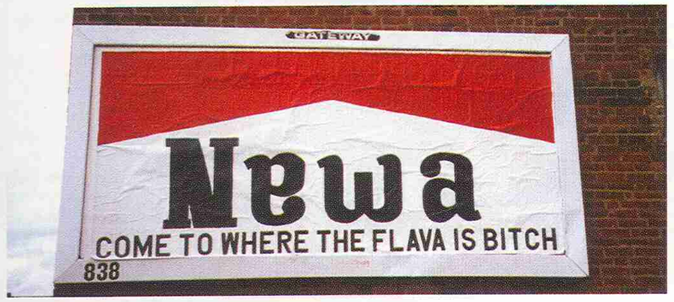
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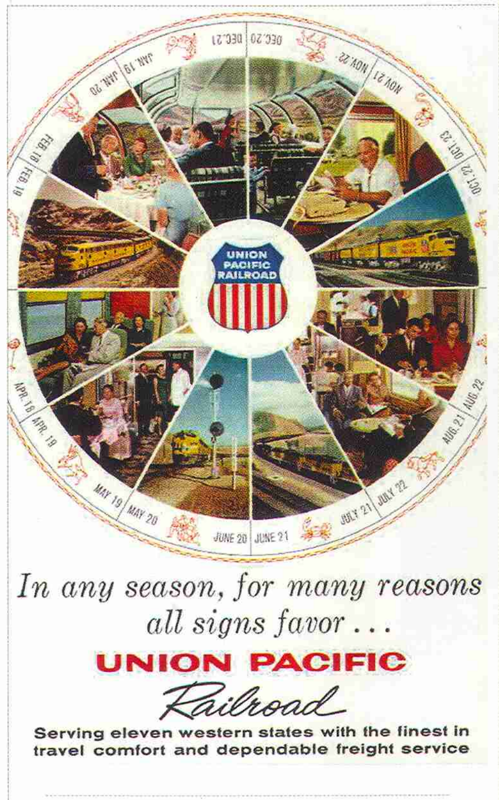

In any season, for many reasons
all signs favor . . .

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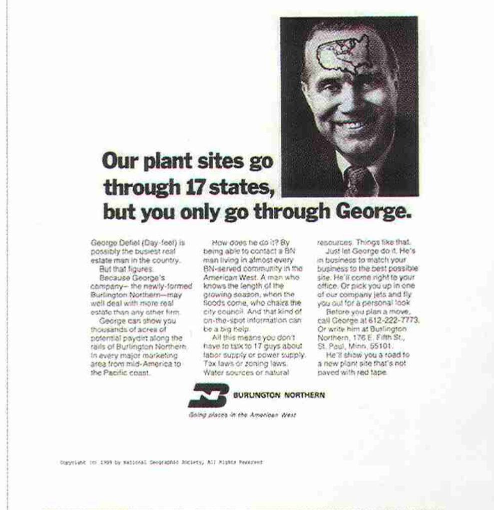

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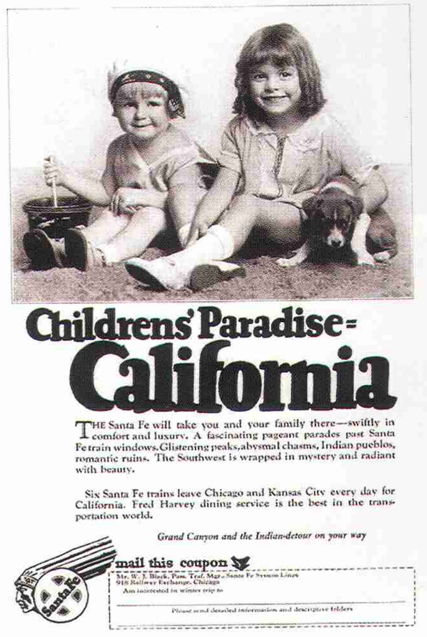

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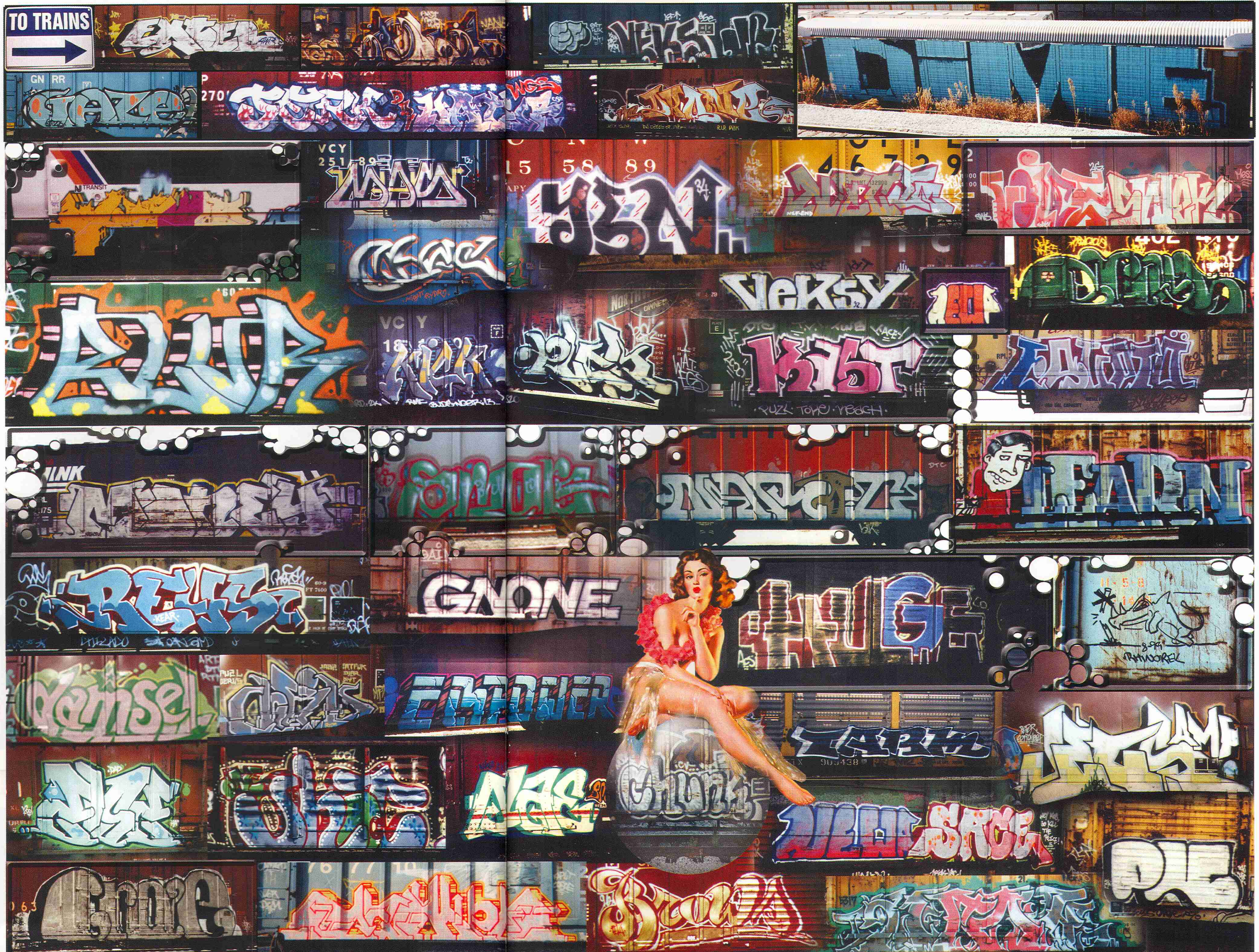

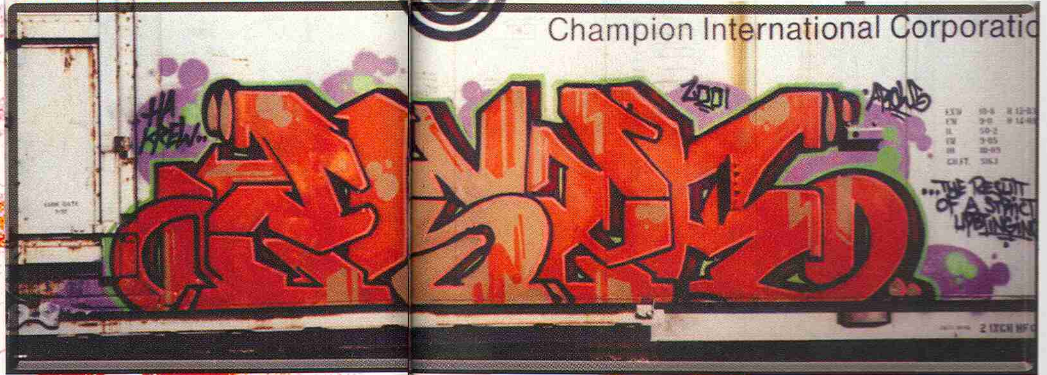
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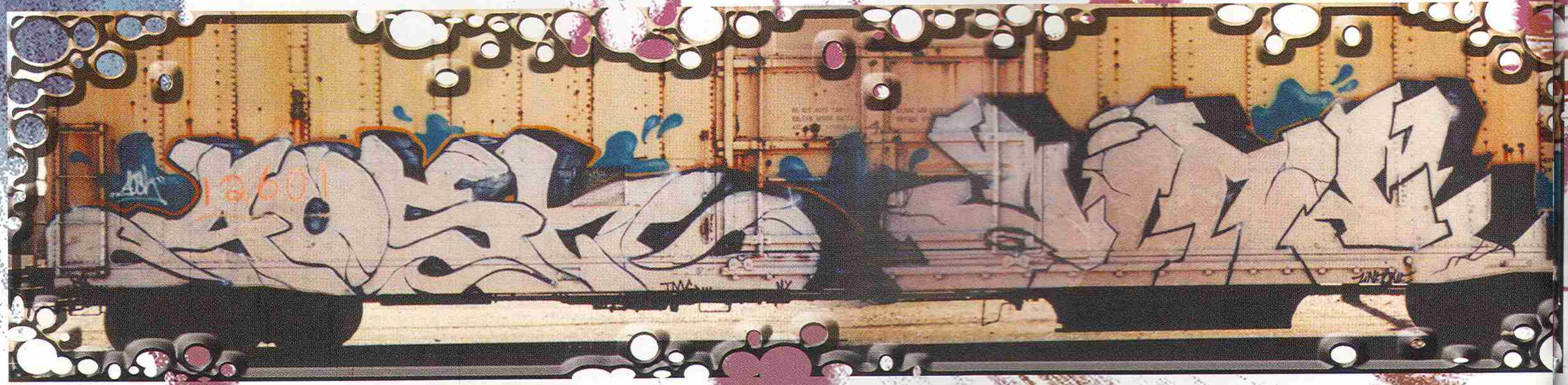

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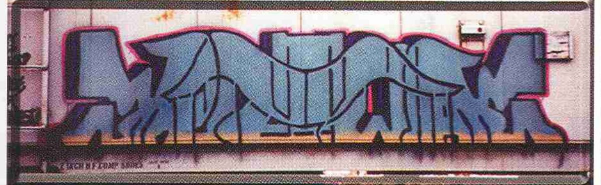

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YO RAMBO! WHEN YA GONNA TEACH ME THAT
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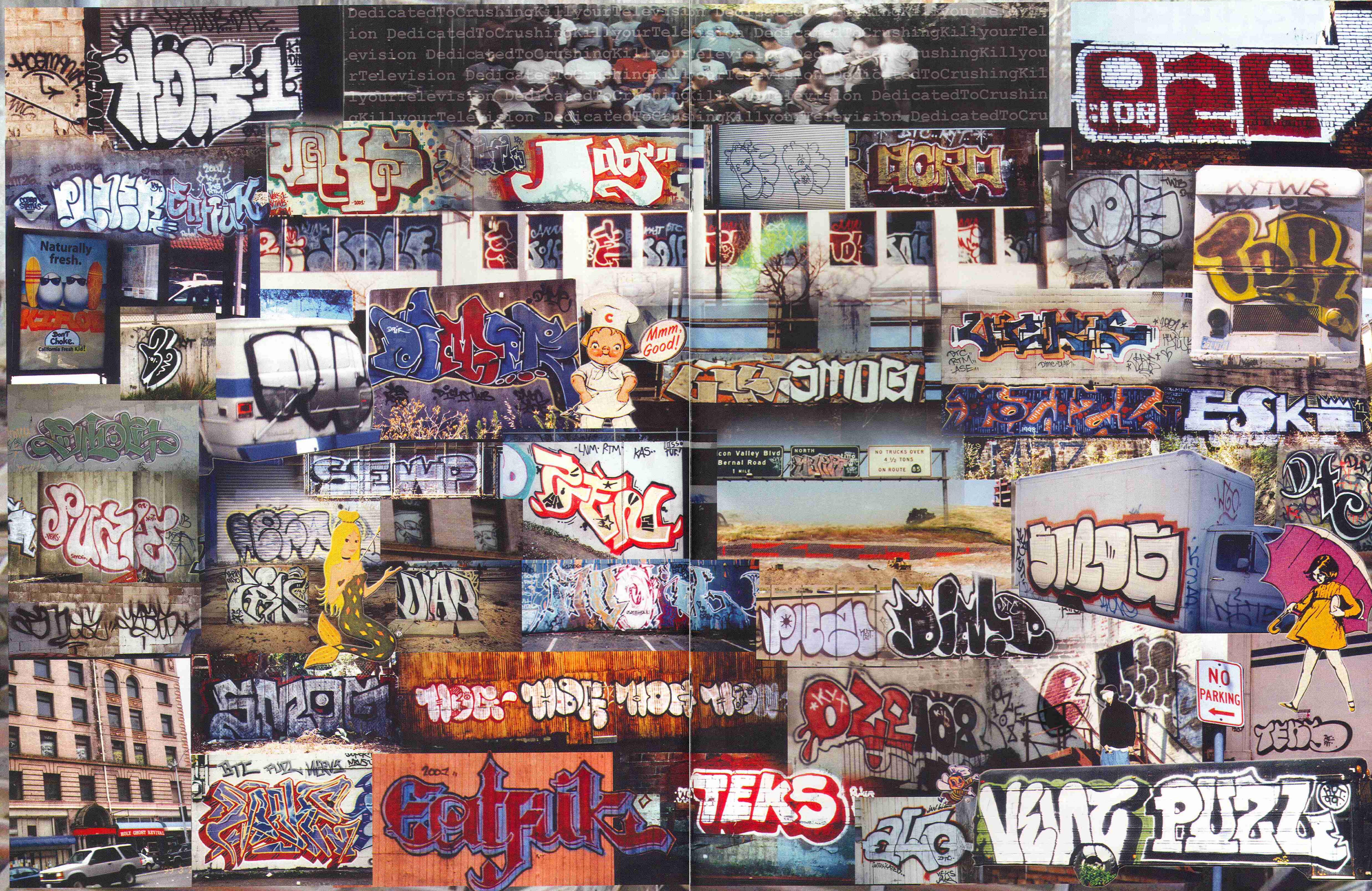
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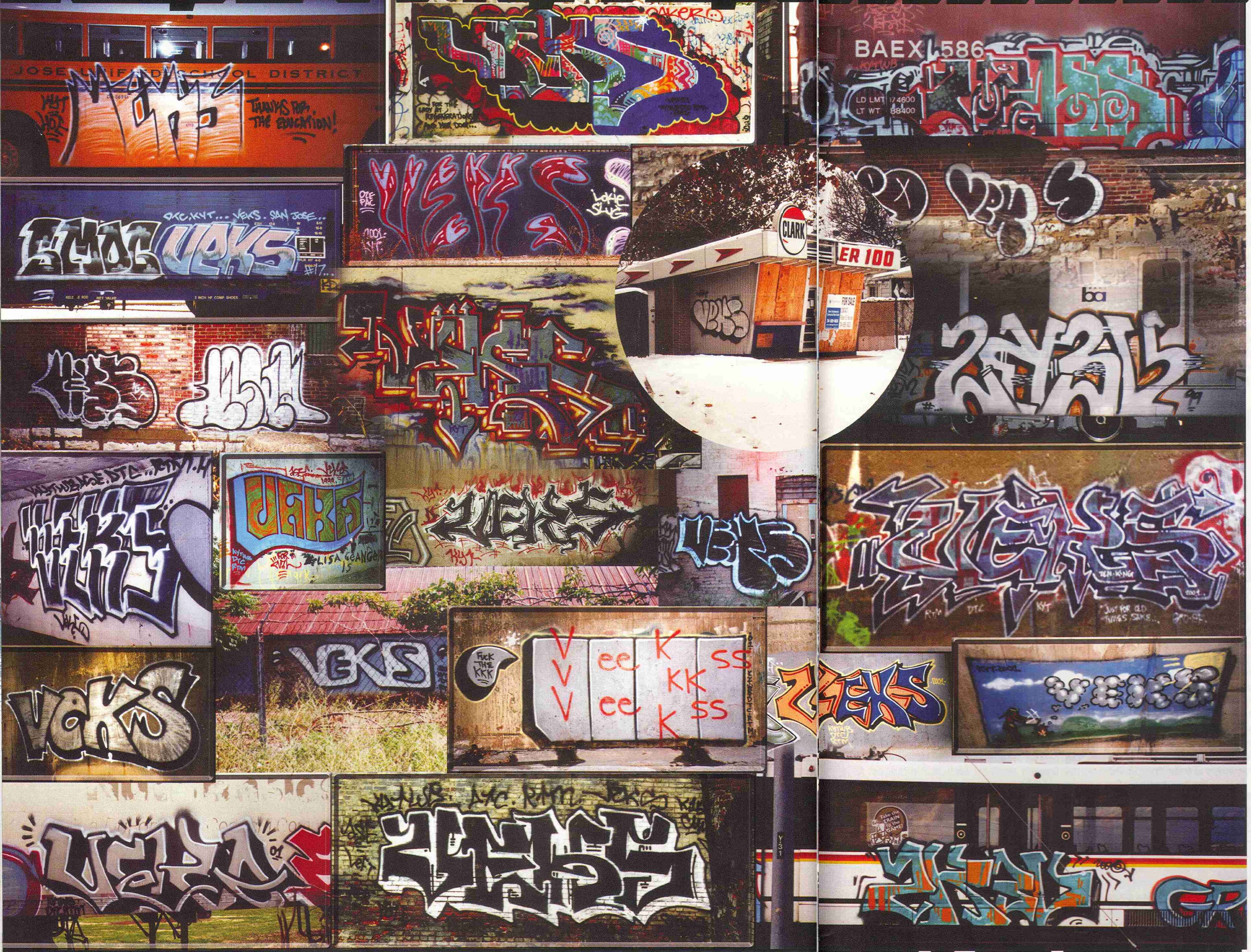
INTERVIEW WITH VEKSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS

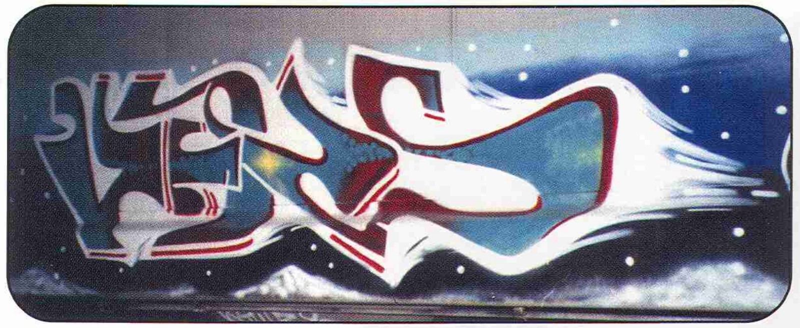


Clout: What were you like as a kid?
Veks: I was pretty quiet and easy going. I was by myself a lot, playing with legos and shit like that. I liked to make things and take stuff apart; stuff like that.

How long have you been writing?
My name since '93. Caught my first tags in '89 or '90, but didn't know shit. Could draw an okay piece on paper in '94, couldn't really paint em right until mid '95. Started getting a little bit known locally as for piecing under bridges until mid '96 when I met Smog and he took me bombing. A few months later in '96, I went to a train yard with Rome, Jag, Dime, Suer, and Smog and painted my first freights.

How did you get started? Did you have any influences growing up?
Originally Beat Street in '84 or '85, then later cholos in the later 80's, San Jose freeways in the '89-'91. Kose and Ceiver for bombing back in '92-today; no one's probably heard of them outside of the Bay, but if there is such a thing as a king of the Bay Area, it's one of them. Kose and Ceiver, no one comes close. They have been the most up for like a decade at least. Also, Zen was a major bombing influence; people think he's a freight guy, but that guy has bombed so many crazy spots over the years. Full color pieces where guys would only do tags on the side of the road and shit, no lookouts or other tricky shit either, just going up and painting shit. Priest MBC got me out piecing, Smog got me out bombing, Jabs got me doing a lot of trains. All my early letters were based on New York; all that old FC stuff was my favorite. Cyme 742 was the first older writer that I painted with. I learned a lot about painting from him; freight yards, racking scams, all kinds of shit. That dude was cool as fuck to me and I was only like 17. He wasn't one of these guys trying to school me and give me letters or anything like that, making me do his dirt and stuff like that. That shit makes me laugh. Smog, Zen, Puzl, and Oze are my main influences for letters and have been since '96. I got hyped on Poe's stuff too in maybe '98. Also Plug FOK DCR, that guy's got some shit. In '97 or something, I saw European stuff and that made me start doing all kinds of bugged out shit, experimenting with all kinds of shit. I haven't straight up bitten anything since maybe '95 or early '96, but I'll look at shit, then put it away and try to make my own version of something with the same feel; different letters though, always. Besides guys from my crews and sometimes European or old New York stuff, I mainly look at non-graffiti stuff for influences nowadays. I get a lot of tricks from album covers, signs, books, all kinds of other lettering, even old art history stuff. I was taking a lot from biomechanic tattoos in '98, using a lot of organic blob stuff. I fucked with a lot of death metal covers for a while, whatever. I've tried to touch every style of graffiti and every style of lettering that I've ever seen: art deco, neveau, old english; I really like West Coast new wave from the 80's. I like the new wave/funk letter combos that guys like Dare WCF were doing. I think every type of lettering is dope in one way or another and deserves to be played with. I try as hard as possible not to just paint whatever's currently in-style or whatever, but I'll definitely paint my take on whatever it is a few times, but anyway, yeah I definitely do my homework, but I don't use tracing paper like some guys seem to.

What aspect of graffiti appealed to you that

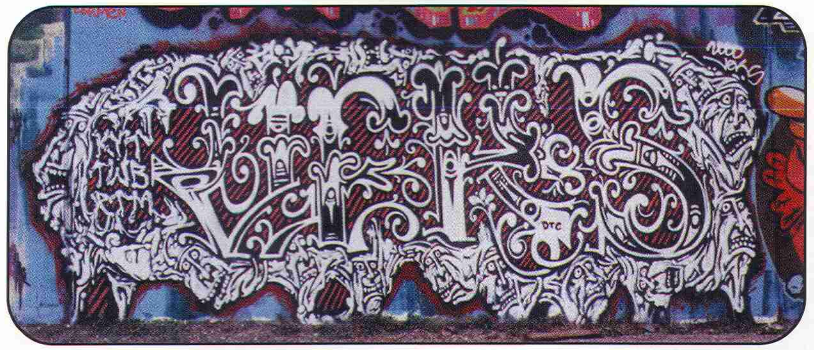


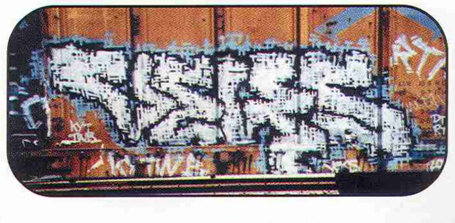
made you start doing it?
I always liked the way it looked. I'd wanted to do it since I was real young, maybe five or so. I didn't know how into it I'd get or anything like that, but I always wanted to do it. I didn't know there was a scene of writers or fame or any of that shit; I didn't know people tried to do it all over the place with the same name or anything like that. I still just like the way it looks more than anything; it's too bad I can't just look at it all and like it the way I used to. Now all these names have stories connected to them, and a lot of the stories aren't so great.

Graffiti likes and dislikes?
I like coming up with letters, painting them, trying new shit, finding spots, the challenge of getting shit to run in cities, chilling with my friends. I don't like a lot of the writers I've come across. I don't like having to lie to my parents when they're straight up with me. I don't like beef, I don't like jail, I don't like a lot of shit I guess...

Since you've started writing, how has graffiti changed your perspective, if at all?
It's hard to say, since I was about ten or eleven years old back then, and now I'm twenty something. It's hard to know what parts of my perspective are credited to graffiti. I'm sure its made me kind of angry. My favorite thing in the world is illegal. I'm a lot more paranoid than your average Joe, and it's definitely made me tired. I feel like I'm fifty right now. It's hard worrying every day that someone might have just seen you do something, or that 5-0 is staking you out, tapping your phones, whatever else. Some crankhead you went to highschool with just got caught robbing a house and snitched you off. With writing, there's all kinds of shit a normal person doesn't need to worry about. All the dumb motherfuckers that write out there really get you thinking that people are stupid and aren't worth shit. I guess I feel practically brain dead from paint fumes and have missed like 200 days of sleep over the past five years, so I probably see everything a little bit screwed up. Whatever though, I can't think of anything better I could have spent my life doing.

DTC KYT. I want to hear your point of view. What‘s holding them strong and making them stronger?
Shit, I don't know man, as they get bigger you have to deal with more personalities so shit gets tricky. As they get more and more up, you have more people trying to ride on your fame or whatever, plus all the accidental shit that occurs when doing shit while drunk adds up and people get more reasons to dislike you. Of course, you've also got to deal with authorities and all kinds of bullshit that comes with the territory as you paint more i guess. With KYT, it was kind of a fuck around crew; most of the original members didn't even write. I'm suprised it ended up being pushed so much. I don't know, I'm down for everyone in my crews, not as writers but just as people or whatever. I think everyone is, and that's why the crews are still strong, and will stay strong. You look at our crews KYT and DTC at least, and you've got some guys that are really good, and some guys that are not so good. Some guys that have been around since the mid 80's, and some guys that just started in the last few years. Some guys got down when they couldn't even do a throwup. We've got thugged out guys that fight every week and small guys that have never been in a fight in their life. It's all about the people, their personalities; that's how everyone that's in it got down, because they were cool to be around. Most people don't understand that shit, we take a lot of shit for it I guess. We suck I guess. Fuck it. I'd rather be down with who I'm down with than have people look up to me or something because I'm a graffiti pro who only hangs out with other graffiti pros. I don't even care if people paint or not, usually if they don't, I like them better for some reason. As far as everything goes, I liked it better when no one had heard of us. We've always painted just as much, but once people in cities we'd never been to had heard of us, that ruined everything. I guess we're known or whatever a little bit now, but that doesnt matter. It's harder to get around now if every city already knows where you're from.





How about the other crews: TWB, ASE, RTM?
As far as TWB and ASE go, that's some straight San Jo shit. No one knows about those crews except people from San Jose, and no one probably ever will; but people in San Jo all know whatsup. TWB's been fucking shit up nonstop since like '87 and still going strong, and I mean fucking shit up: bombing, scribing, tagging, all that shit, freeways, busses, all the raw shit. It's not all 50 heads deep or anything like a lot of SJ crews either, it's always been just a few. All I can say about ASE is one name: Mr. Left. I don't want to blow up his spot, and no one outside of SJ has probably ever even heard of him, but I'd be suprised if anyone on the West Coast has done as much bombing as this guy in the last five or six years, straight up; I'm talking like thousands of freeway fillins, tags, street shit, thousands. You name it, that fools had it locked down for years, and this is in a place where most shit doesn't run for more than a week; you've got to steadily do shit. He's been around since way back too, but I'm not going to pull his card. RTM, thats some other San Jose shit too; more into piecing and trains than the others though. You got all these new freight crews with guys all over the place. RTM's always been outta one spot, with only a few heads. I've only been down since like '97 so I can't ride on any of the oldschool stats, but I don't need to hype RTM up, everyone into freights knows about it. Maybe they forget sometimes, but it's been around, and will be around. All you kids in the middle of nowhere with some chill ass yards thinking you're the shit, don't get too big of a head now, you've got years to go.

Why so many crews?
All the crews I'm in are from the same place and have the same heads pretty much. Some are smaller and into different shit, but it's all the same heads at every party, you know? One big ass family. I hit them all up, but it's all the same guys; the crews just have different roots and came together later on.

Are you just about business when it comes to graff or do you still have a fun time doing it?
All fun, I'm not one of these idiots trying to be the dopest ever. I paint lots of ugly ass shit; I don't even care what it looks like at all most of the time. I don't try and do the biggest fill-in ever. I think bombing with anything more than two colors looks stupid usually. I don't go out because someone else went out, I just try to be myself and paint when I feel like it. It's added up over time, but I wasn't trying to be the king or anything. I'm already happy with what I've done; I've already done plenty of dirt, whatever category. I'm just trying to keep building on what I've already done, just as a hobby or whatever is how I'd like it to be. I'm still kind of in the 24-7 graffiti mindstate, but I'd like to be able to just have a normal life and paint when it's time to paint. I will never be able to compete with the guys that have got something to prove, with a chip on their shoulder or whatever.

Any comments on your originality?
I try, but it's hard; those damn Europeans have thought of everything. Also, old ass New York. I'll do shit and think I invented it or whatever, then I'll see some old ass piece with the same shit. I guess I just put my shit looking good aside and am willing to do ugly ass shit for the sake of experimentation. I'm like 30 years late, I have to deal with it. Oh well.

Tagging, bus hopping and freeways?
Always, busses are the most important thing to be up on with tags. If you don't have your busses locked down, you aren't shit. Freeways of course, lots of pen tags, can tags, scribes, not just little piecer scribes on little metal things and phone booths, but big fuckin nonstops with drill bits across windows. Those are the shit.

Which city that you've been to has the most successful anti-graffiti program?
I don't know that any of them really had any top notch detectives, or anything like that, piecing together evidence like Denzel Washington in the Bone Collector or anything like that. They usually just get kids to snitch; it's pretty simple. All the cities I've been to have buffed more shit than they've let run. You kinda figure out what runs in what city after a while. If you piss a city off too much, you'll get shut down no matter where you are. I don't fuck with heavens, glass etch; none of the stuff that gets you on the top of the list. Most people I know of get caught at played out piecing spots more than they do doing roofs or freeways or anything like that. Over time of course, shit eventually adds up and you have to either make the decision to quit or just go in and out of jail for the rest of your life. It's real easy to talk shit about how I'm going to be around forever fucking shit up, but I've seen a lot of people quit. The downest guys I've ever met have had to slow down or quit and I can't put myself above them, so I'll just see what happens.

Which would you say you have more of, friends or enemies?
It's hard to say; people are so fake, I can't tell who's who most of the time. I got a lot of friends, everyone that's ever met me would probably say I was cool to them, I think. There's plenty of guys I'd like to swing on, but I'm not out stepping on toes trying to stir shit up with people I don't know or anything. A lot of guys that I was nice to years ago have double crossed me and my friends, trying to jock some guys that don't like us. They ended up trying to step to us, trying to show off or something. That's cool, all you fools will get it eventually. Just wait till you strut up like a superstar to SuperGraffSummitFest 2010 with your wife and kids, know what I'm saying? Everything comes back.

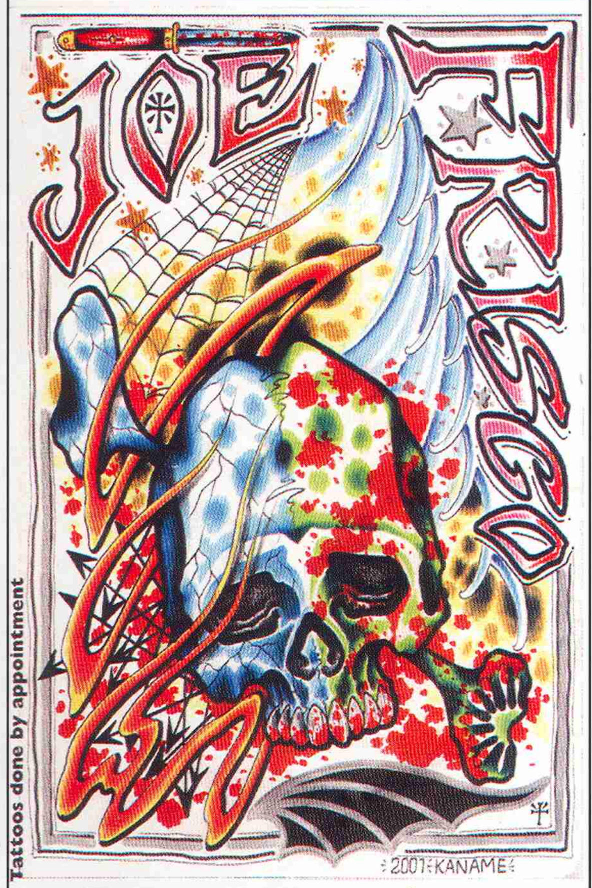
What do you think about arguing online or beef that resulted from the internet?
I think it's dumb of course, but I guess it's got to get handled like any other beef. I guess you've got to take into consideration that it's the internet, still though, when deciding how to handle it. People get all brave on there; it's usually people that never had to deal with beef growing up that stir shit up constantly. When I was younger I learned real quick that no matter how good you are or how up you are, there's some guy that's done like, two tags in his life that will stab you in the neck if you act up even the slightest bit. People think the shit they talk isn't going to come back to them because it's on a computer.

What about he said, she said rumors?
I was watching this special on language and its evolution, and scientists found that the 2/3? of all spoken language is used for gossip.

...and the writers who are full of themselves and always try to school you in a conversation?
You're dope, graffiti's extremely important. Your parents think you're a loser just like mine.

Where do you think your graff career is headed. Retiring ever come to mind?
I will one day I'm sure, or quit bombing at least when they make me or my lungs collapse. It seems like two people have lasted and thousands have quit, so maybe I'll be number three, but that's a pretty bold statement to make. Hopefully I can scribe still, or catch pencil tags when I'm older if I still care. For now, I'd like to head more towards thought-out quality pieces: concepts and shit. I want to spend more time thinking up fill-ins and not just occupying the space between my outline with whatever. I'm real lazy in general, it would be nice to have some motivation. I'd like to go to art school one day but can't really afford it for now, but I just like letters mostly, I just want to keep doing what I've been doing: drawing letters. I draw a lot of letters, at least ten or twenty sets a day usually. I don't paint most of them; I throw most of them away usually. Hopefully my "graff career" is headed towards not throwing them away and painting them more often or something.

If graffiti didn't exist, how would you spend your time?
I'd probably just draw a lot, maybe make music. I wish I had the equipment to make music. I assume I'd have stuck with art if graffiti weren't around, maybe not though. Its hard to say; when you're a little kid writing, you're forced to devote so much time to getting good. If I wasn't in that spot, maybe I would have lost interest and gotten into cars or watching sports or something. •



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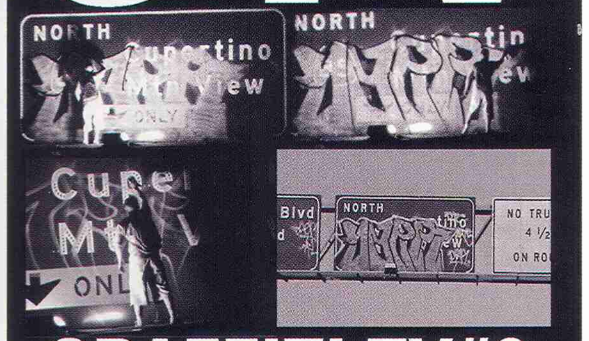
San Francisco CA 94110
415-642-1777



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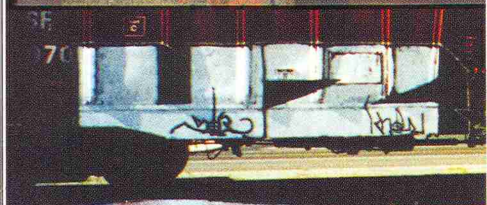
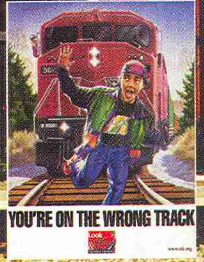
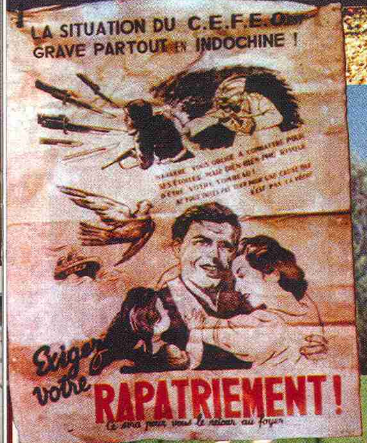
This seriously burned woman on Bidong Island was disfigured by boiling water thrown by a family member when she refused to become a prostitute.




YOU'RE ON THE WRONG TRACK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TICKET $40.00
TICKET $50
Match 3 like prizes, win that prize.
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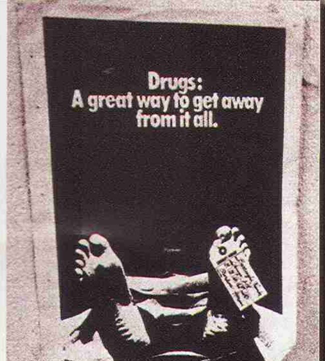
Drugs:
A great way to get away from it all.

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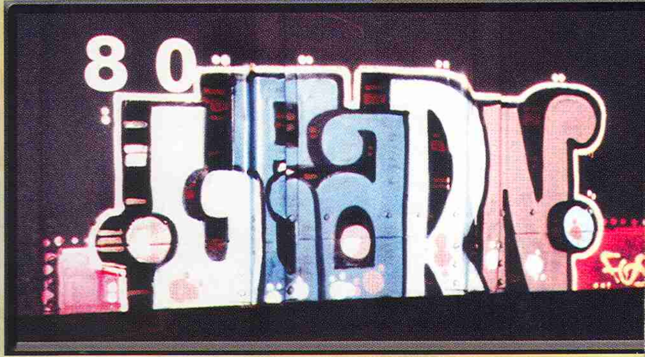
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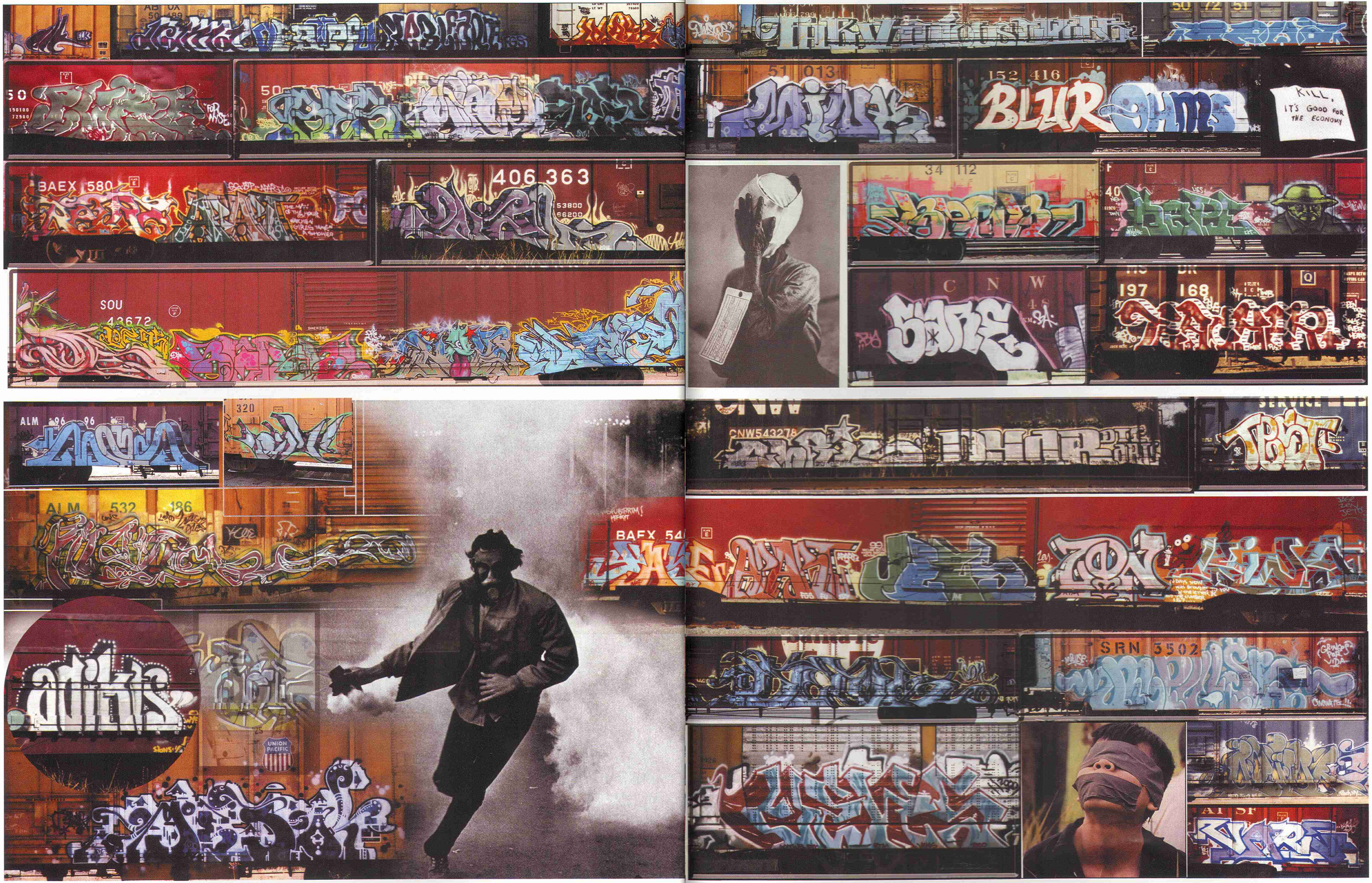
KILL, IT'S GOOD FOR THE ECONOMY
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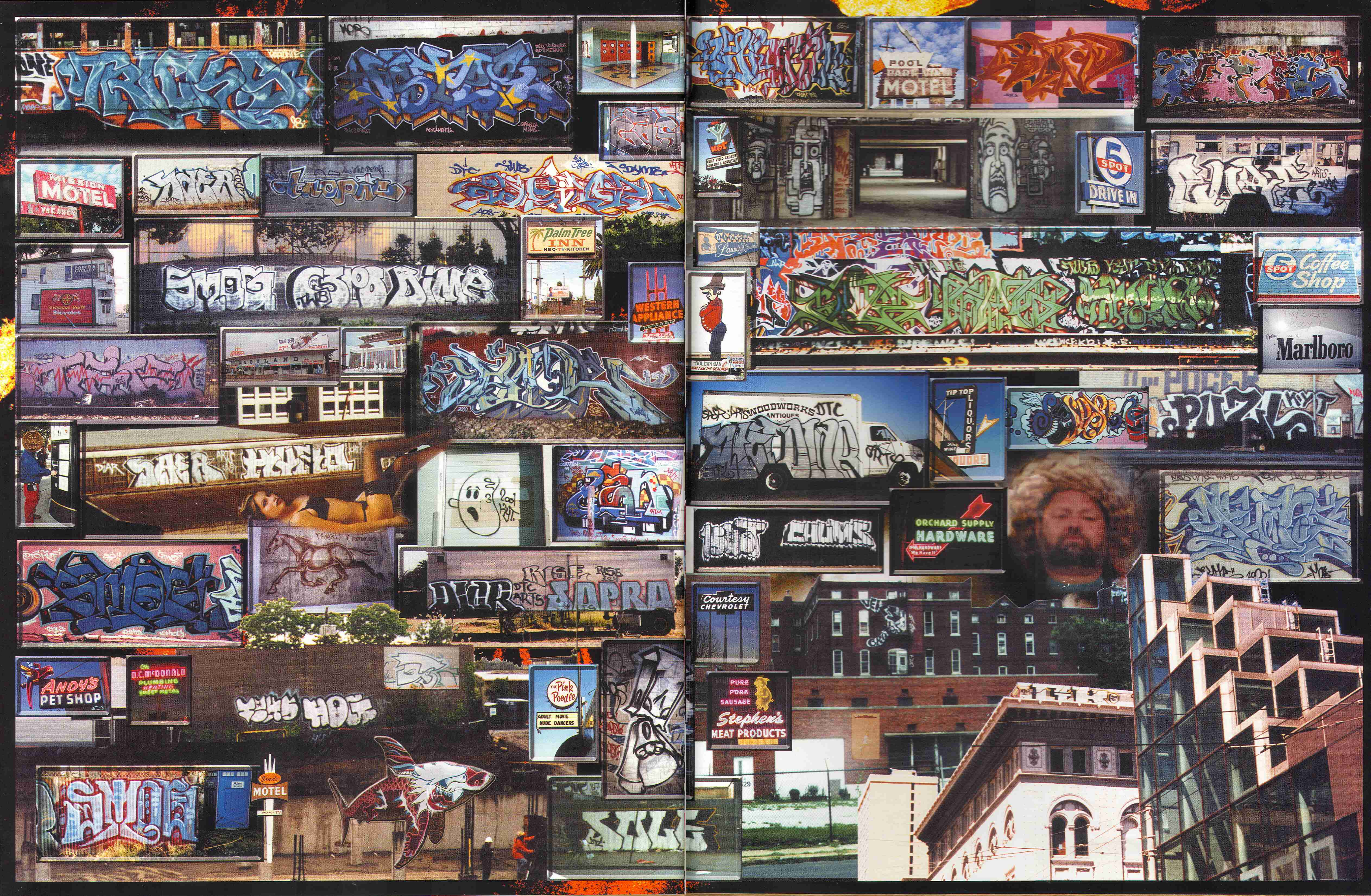
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SAPRA
ANDY'S PET SHOP
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PLUMBING
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The Pink Poodle
ADULT MOVIE
NUDE DANCERS
Sands
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ADULT VIDEO ARCADE
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TONY SUCKS
Marlboro
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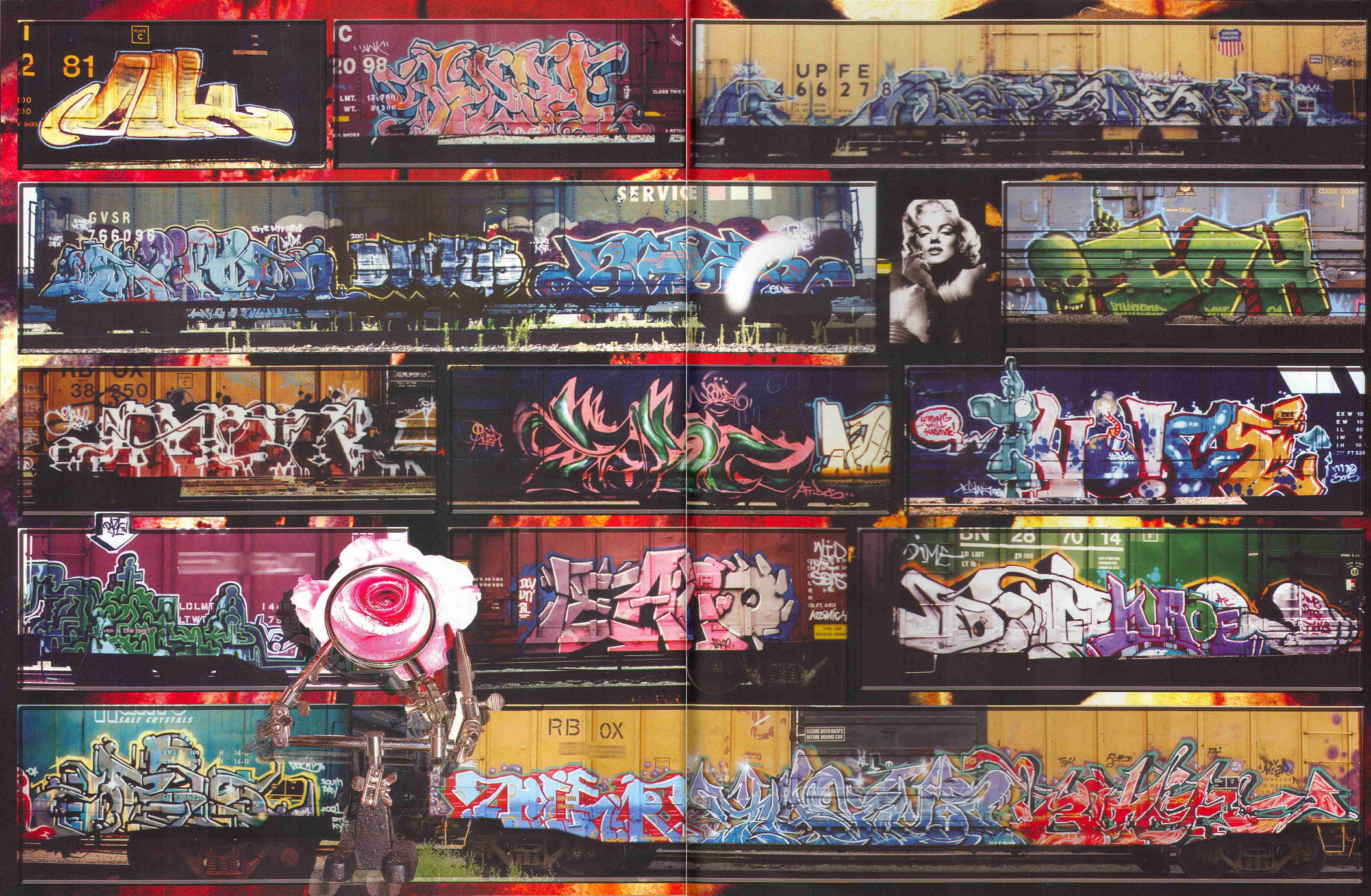

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SECURE BOTH HASPS BEFORE MOVING CAR

What do you write? Where are you from and how long have you been writing?
Begr and I'm fresh from Cambodia. I've been writing for around 10 years.

What aspect of graffiti appealed to you that made you want to start doing it?
Well, tags of course. I saw fools up and I was like yeah …I got to get up like so and so.

Likes and dislikes of graffiti?
Likes: 1. Everything about it as long as its first hand, not a sloppy second. Dislikes: 1. Fake fools that front knowing that they came from a big house with nice cars. 2. People that are from Middle America and use styles that don't belong to them (cholo writing, the Reas thing,etc.). 3. Toys who jock the spot (I saw so and so do this...me too). 4. Students/out of towners that go over younger writers in their own neighborhoods because they think that they're better. 5. Fools that get up in a few spots (if you can count them in your head, this is for you) and think that they are a king.

What do you associate with graffiti?
Everyone has their opinion on this. I don't really put myself in the hip hop or the ever so cool, punk rock category. I like all kinds of music. I am a very open minded person when it comes to music, but I knock West Coast music (you the reader might refer to it as gee music).

How did you get started? Influences growing up?
I don't remember how it was that I first got started, but I do remember when I was thirteen years old, all I would do was cut school and go downtown and kill shit; rack everything I wanted. I would hop a bus to a city I never been to, hit tags and rack every day. Back then, I didn't have influences. I remember seeing fools up, but back then it was all about being out, fucking shit up; being young. Fools from my neighborhood and I would just be on some crazy missions. Store workers and bus drivers must have been like, 'Fuck these kids are ruthless'. I remember one summer day, there were like fourteen of us smashing downtown. My boy was like, 'Yo, lets get all these bomb bags and stink bomb'. I am like fuck it; must have put about six boxes of bomb bags up his back. I got all the stink bombs and all fourteen of us rushed downtown throwing them in the stores; fucking around, doing hot shit .

Fr8Geez?
Yeah, I used to push that crew and I still got love for the fools that kept it gangster with me, but as far as the fools that claim to be gangster, it's only for so long you can pretend. For the record, you can suck my dick talking all that shit behind my back; you know who you are, little drama momma bitch. Forget all your beef with all them little freight crews that you still haven't taken care of. What's it been, two years now? This is the real deal, you bitch. If I see you its on....on site.

Beefing between fr8 crews?
I feel that if a crew has beef, they should handle that shit. Fight,diss, whatever...no different than if two bus hopping crews have beef, you diss their shit up. Lots of people don't feel that because their background or where they came from is different; maybe from a farm or some shit like that (I don't know, don't care). Beef, in general, is a muthafucker. It could go your way, it could end in your bad favor; it's something you got to deal with. If you don't, and choose to avoid it, that's good for you but I don't like being stepped on.

Capping trains?
Capping trains...lots of people are anal about this. I personally feel there is no difference. If I don't like you or have beef with your crew, fuck you, your done hallow or fill, how you want it.

Describe your first fight.
I don't remember my first fight; I've been in so many. Here is one that sticks out good when I was sixteen: I was at a party and this crew, Cowards Get No Fame rolls up on me and my homie so we're like lets go. These toys were like double the age of me so I pulled out this big ass screwdriver and went to work on who ever was closest. I made it home with a few bruises but I stuck one of them pretty good.

What do you think about arguing online or beef that resulted from the internet?
The internet...I love fighting and arguing with toys on the net most of the time. I humor them, go along with them, let them say whatever shit they want; it amuses me. I am not one of those guys who are on there 24-7 in the chat rooms, on the sites. But I breeze through here and there and see what toys are talking.

He said, she said rumors?
The rumors...I don't let rumors get to me. If someone has anything to tell me I expect them to address me with the shit; not to be a bitch about the situation and be like, 'He did this, or did you know he did what'?' A lot of you bitch made toys out there are like that; chopping me up, talking shit about me to people that you meet at graffiti shows or what not. I don't mind it…

...and writers who are full of themselves and always try to school you in a conversation?
That is one of the main reasons why I don't talk about graffiti with writers I don't know. I try not to talk to other graffiti writers at all.

You've traveled a lot; how do the people differ?
The people differ a lot everywhere you go. You can just tell; like I didn't feel right half the places I've been in Middle America, and I've been through a lot. I remember seeing this crazy hick guy in Wyoming just sitting there eating with this crazy ass leather vest with all kinds of crazy patches all over it with a raccoon hat on, talking to himself. I am like what the fuck; home boy goes to the rest room and all you hear are these crazy fart sounds like the whole restuarant can hear. Then all of a sudden, you hear this song he's singing at the top of his lungs: What's that smell, oh shit I started, what's that smell ohh shit I farted!!!!

East, West, Midwest. What are your thoughts about freights throughout the region?
East,West, Midwest, whatever. I don't give a shit what the fuck fools are doing unless they are related, I don't give a shit. I know my boy Rekey is killing it on the East. All the homies in the West are doing it; Bias is doing his thing in Texas.

What is the most unusual thing you have seen during one of your late night sprees?
This one night in San Francisco I was out doing the normal and damn I get hot, so I smash down this alley way and in the middle of the alley it splits into a smaller one way alley. So I cut down there and bam, there's this crazy ass black bum, dead smack in the middle of the alley copping a squat. He's got shit all over him; my boy and I were like oh shit. I guess you had to be in my kicks…

What do you think about San Francisco?
Honestly, I've only been to San Francisco like five times. I like it compared to good ol' Cambodia.

Are you a people person, or a fuck the world person?

A people person... fuck that. It's not that I am a fuck the world person, I just don't give a fuck about the next person doing whatever the fuck their doing. I stick to my own and I hope the next is doing the same thing.

More friends or enemies?
I really don't care to make any more friends in graffiti. I know enough, and if you want to be one of my enemies...dope, waste your time; I love going over shit.

Everyone for themselves or one for the other?
I am not a cut throat type of person. I am down for all my people. If there is a problem or they need something I'll do 100% for them.

You just about business when it comes to graff, or do you still have a fun time doing it?
I have fun every time I paint, otherwise I wouldn't paint. I love doing some shit, stepping back and being like yeah, you know?

How do you feel about graffiti magazines, videos, clothing, video games, and other related merchandise?
I love graffiti magazines and vidoes. It's a cool way for people to see what's being done. Lots of people hate graffiti magazines or buy them and then talk shit about the people in them. All that is about is fools get jealous and start poppin' off at the lip. I can't speak on all of you but I know people that talk a grip of shit about magazines, but when they come out in them they go and buy the shit?

Originality?
That's a must. Don't just pick up the next Scribble or Big Time and bust out some shit.

Sidebusting?
I don't really side bust if I don't have to, but for the fools out there side busting, cool, but don't try it by my pieces; it might not be there the next time it rolls back in your yard .

What do you think about numbers and people who do tons of small, ugly, half assed straight letters?
I go for my own numbers. I don't care how anyone else gets theirs.

What do you think of the hobo tag craze and people who do them?
At first, I was like cool you know, these guys have been around for a long time or whatever. Then, I started to notice fools getting dissed by these guys, then the ever so cool I know Solo came about, which is cool, but I hung out with these one guys and all I heard was Solo this, Solo that; full of it. I am sure Solo is a cool guy or whatever, but I don't care to know him. Some of the people who do those streaks do nice ones but if it's in the way, I am sorry guys; maybe next time it will be by the ladder.

Straight edge or substance abuse?
Straight edge. I don't know if I could handle that. I give guys like that major props. I mean I am not some raging drunk but I like to hang out and grab a drink here and there you know? I think I'll pass on the hard liquor, but every piece I have done, I've drank a beer.

What type of shit are you into or have gotten yourself into?
Close calls. Man, I have gotten myself into some shit. There was one part of my life where I was so backed up in court cases for graff and other hot shit. I don't know where to begin. I know fools that are still locked up for shit that went down back then; either that or they get out and go right back.

Hot shit as in... Ganking?
Anything you could think of. Car stereos, clothes hellys, kicks, drank, cameras, jewelry, (not that much then) etc.

Slim Jim's, jacking people's car stereos?
Fuck no! I was never like that I would get that shit from stores. I dont get down with any crack heads..

I heard alot of shit said about you... (crew drama, kids talking, Begr jacked me), whats your take on that?
I dont really get into shit like that. My personal business is my shit but I'll tell all you graff whores out there like this: get off the jock if it ain't about you you shouldn't be concerned. Lots of these fools out there just want to know who, what, where, when and why. I mean fuck, can I live.

What about the guys you jacked?
Hold up now you got me all fucked up here.
(Minutes later...)
Shit happens sometimes. Fools get out of place and try and evade a spot or some shit, fuck that...

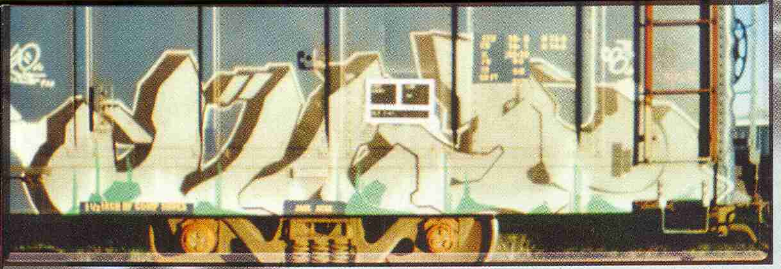
Jail?
Very overrated…

I noticed you are a pretty big guy what's your weight?
375.

Where do you think your graff career is headed? Retiring ever come to mind?
I can't say where my graff career is going or if it's going to take me anywhere. All I can say is that I'll paint as long as I feel good enough to paint and when I am done, I am done just like that. I'll leave with the same feeling that I started with .

If graffiti didn't exist, how would you spend your time?
I would probably get more sleep. I don't really let my night life interfere with my day time hustle.

Last words.
Peace to Clout Magazine for the interveiw and to all the graff mags out there who run my shit. My Dogs Kill. The WAI homies. My Niggas staying fresh on the East. All my boostin patnas Billy Oh, Crackin, Big Herb, Peak a Boo, White Ass (whitee), Igee Pop, all my homies...I ain't forgot none of you...Rest in Peace: Sunny, Fry 1, Observe, Pawzer...we're still here...•



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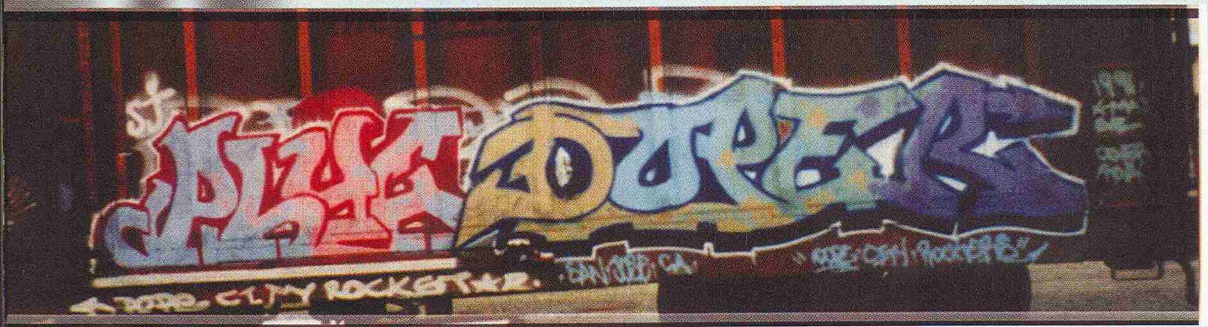

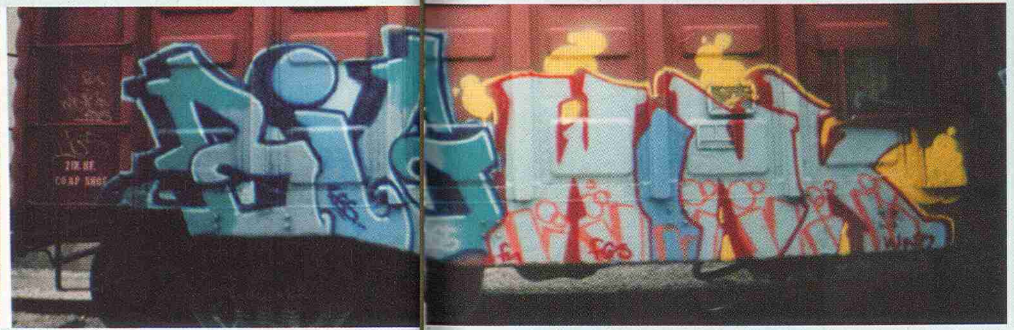

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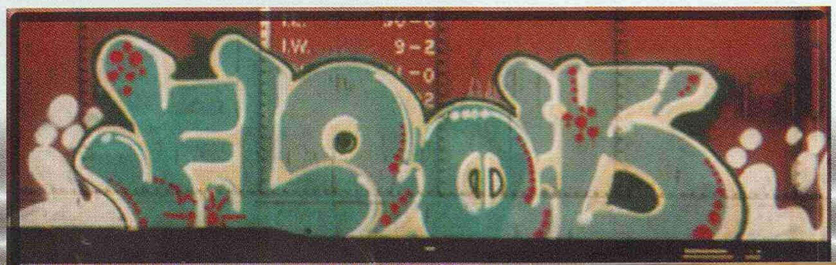

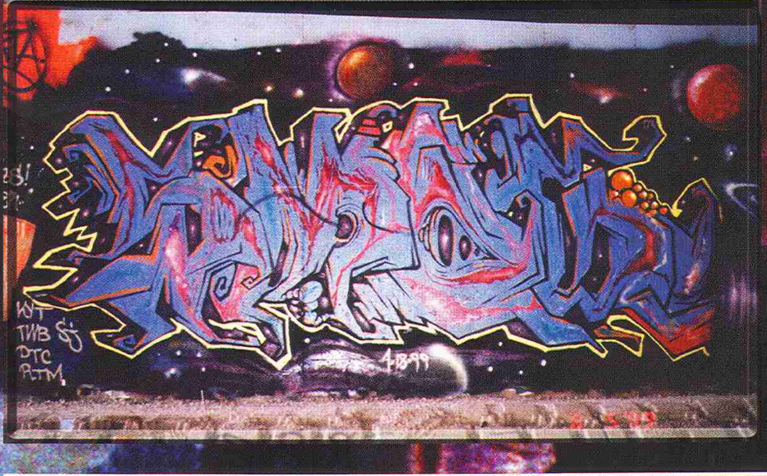
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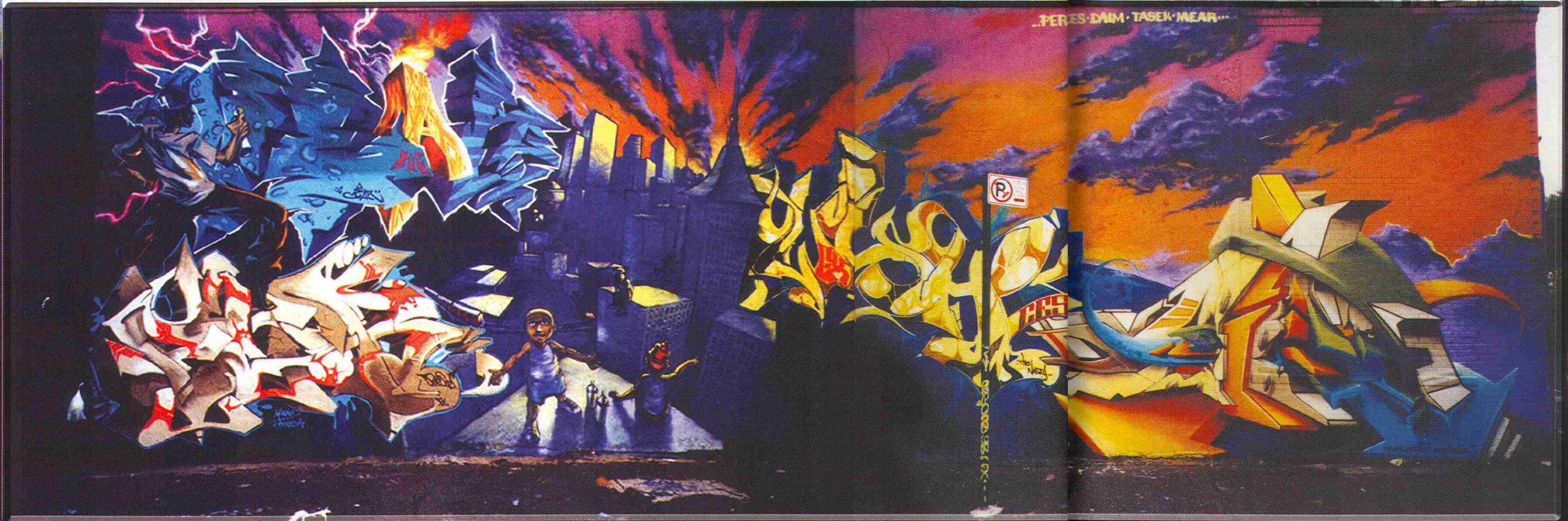
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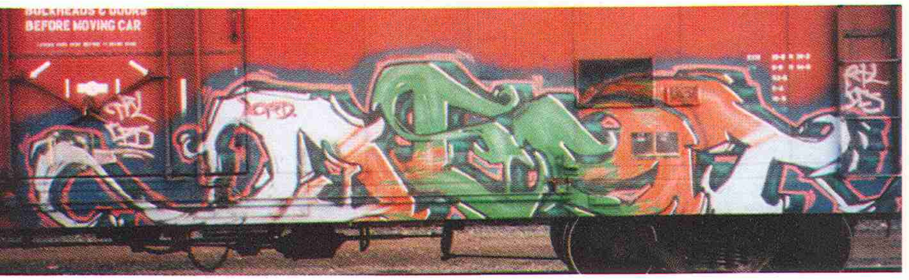
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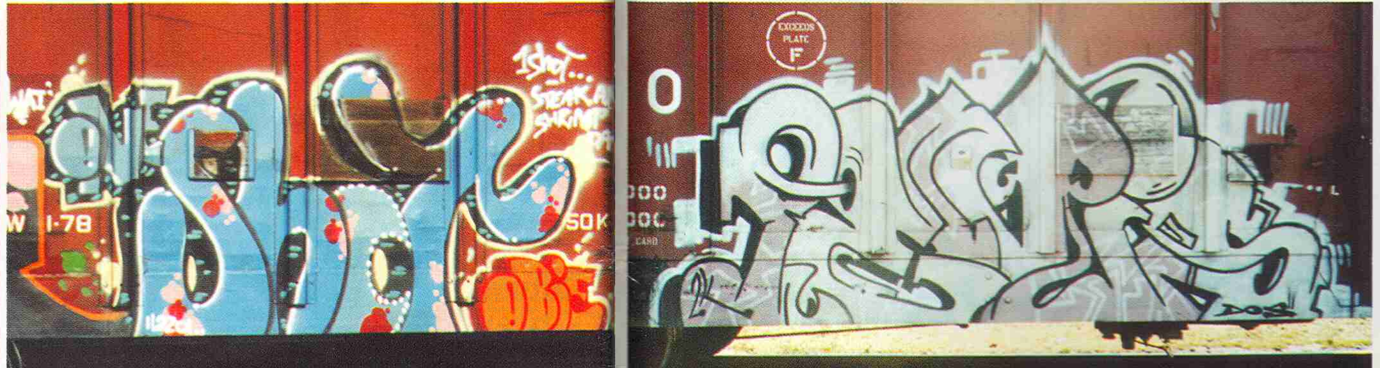

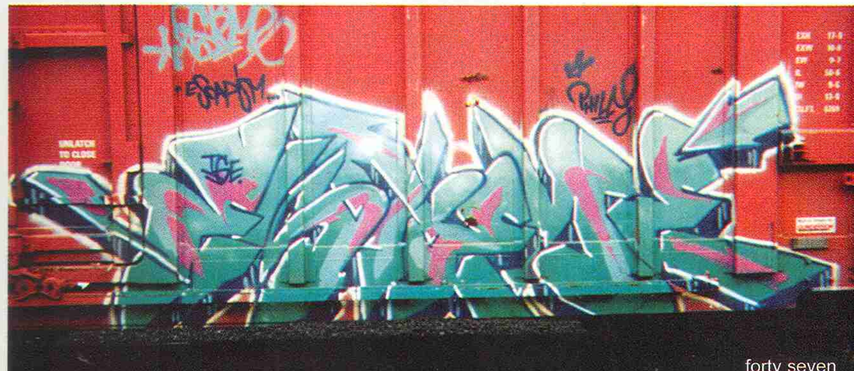

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